

No. 6169

10th April, 1957.

JAPAN/CHINA/M.E.

POLITICAL

TSUJI Masanobu: Visit to Middle East and China.

1. TSUJI Masanobu, the well-known Japanese writer and politician, travelled through Hong Kong on January 1st, 1957, en-route to the Middle East.
2. In conversation with a Chinese friend whom he had known since the Japanese occupation of China, TSUJI said that his tour was being made at the request of the then Prime Minister, ISHIBASHI, who had provided the money for the journey. He did not clearly state the object of his journey but mentioned that he was mainly interested in seeing the oil fields of the Middle East and in assessing the effect there would be on the balance of power if the Middle East came under Russian influence.
3. On his return journey to Japan, TSUJI stayed one night in Hong Kong, i.e. 1st/2nd March 1957. He had a discussion with two Chinese friends named TSEN HSIN-SHU (1478/1800/0647) and TANG CHENG-PO (3282/3397/3134), both formerly connected with the WANG CHING-WEI Puppet regime in China, who are known at present to be in touch with CHANG SHIH-CHAO (4545/1102/6856) an 'unofficial' C.P.G. envoy in Hong Kong. The two Chinese were mainly interested in TSUJI's assessment of the attitude which the new Japanese Government under KISHI would take towards Communist China.
4. TSUJI was non-committal and merely expressed the opinion that KISHI would require time and the establishment of confidence in himself and his Government before he took any definite action regarding relations with Communist China.

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

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5. Regarding his own journey, TSUJI said that he had visited 19 countries including Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Yugoslavia (where he had conversed with President TITO). From KARACHI he had sent a telegram to LIAO CHENG-CHIH (1675/2110/1807), the Vice-Chairman of the C.P.G. Overseas Chinese Affairs Commission, whom he had met about a year earlier when visiting PEKING. LIAO had responded by inviting TSUJI to visit him. TSUJI then went to RANGOON whence he took an aeroplane to PEKING. After talks with LIAO he had left PEKING to resume his pre-arranged journey. The subjects of his discussions with LIAO are not known

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